

House Resolution No. 2188

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State school districts which enjoy a long, productive, and ongoing legacy of meeting the needs of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, on Sunday, May 2, 2004, the Francis Howell School District will dedicate the latest in a series of buildings which have gone by the name of Central Elementary; and

Whereas, until March 2004 Central Elementary School was housed in the former Francis Howell High School building which had been extensively remodeled and enlarged in an effort to keep up with the need for space and facilities in the growing school district; and

Whereas, before the 1950 move to the old Francis Howell High, Central Elementary was located in a former "chicken coop" which was constructed from wood and tarpaper and had been considered a "temporary" building for approximately a decade; and

Whereas, Central Elementary's move into the chicken coop had been necessitated by the United States' appropriation of Howell Institute property in order to build the Weldon Springs Ordnance Works as the effects of World War II began to take hold in America and around the globe; and

Whereas, another reason why Central Elementary pupils, teachers, and administrators found themselves studying, working, and providing leadership in the chicken coop was the new push toward consolidation of schools districts, a change that eliminated many one-room schoolhouses and required larger structures in which to place increasing numbers of students in each grade level; and

Whereas, Central Elementary can trace its educational heritage all the way back to the year 1821 when Lewis Howell School opened as a one-room log cabin for one term of instruction on Howell Prairie; and

Whereas, Lewis Howell School was followed by the subscription Lewis Howell Seminary, Bluff Spring School, Howell Prairie School (which was burned to the ground by the Home Guard Union supporters during the Civil War), Mechanicsville School, and Howell Institute before the formation of Consolidated School District No. 2:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar history and impressive record of achievement associated with Central Elementary School and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's heartfelt best wishes for a successful building dedication ceremony on Sunday, May 2, 2004; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the new Central Elementary School in the Francis Howell School District.

Offered by _____
Representative Joe Smith
District No. 14

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2188, adopted April 27, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker